

OPINION 1586

Euryotis brantsii A. Smith, 1834 (currently *Parotomys brantsii*; Mammalia, Rodentia): specific name conserved

Ruling

(1) Under the plenary powers the specific name *vigil* Thunberg, 1811, as published in the binomen *Arctomys vigil*, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.

(2) The name *brantsii* A. Smith, 1834, as published in the binomen *Euryotis brantsii*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

(3) The name *vigil* Thunberg, 1811, as published in the binomen *Arctomys vigil* and as suppressed in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 2605

An application for the conservation of the specific name of *Euryotis brantsii* A. Smith, 1834 was received from Drs L.C. Rookmaaker (*Dokter Guepinlaan 23, NH Ommeren, The Netherlands*) & J. Meester (*University of Natal, Durban, R.S.A.*) on 27 April 1987. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 45: 43–44 (March 1988). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals. A comment from Dr Dieter Kock (*Forschungsinstitut Senckenberg, Frankfurt, Fed. Rep. Germany*) was published in BZN 45: 223 (September 1988).

Comments in support from Dr Sarah B. George (*Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, California, U.S.A.*) and from Mr W.F.H. Ansell (*St. Ives, Cornwall, U.K.*) were noted on BZN 45: 223.

The paper referred to in para. 2, p. 43 as 'in press' has now been published:

Rookmaaker, L.C. 1988. The taxonomic importance of C.P. Thunberg's revision of South African mammals (1811). *South African Journal of Science*, **84** (3): 159–161.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 September 1989 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 45: 43. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 1989 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 27: Bayer, Bock, Cocks, Corliss, Dupuis, Hahn, Halvorsen, Heppell, Holthuis, Kabata, Kraus, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Mroczkowski, Nielsen, Nye, Ride, Savage, Schuster, Starobogatov, Thompson, Trjapitzin, Uéno, Willink

Negative votes — 1: Cogger.

Cogger commented that he would have voted for *brantsii* being given precedence over *vigil*, but suppression of the latter was unwarranted because the synonymy was uncertain (cf. BZN 45: 223).

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

brantsii, *Euryotis*, A. Smith, 1834, *South African Quarterly Journal*, **2**: 150.

vigil, *Arctomys*, Thunberg, 1811, *Mémoires de l'Académie Impériale des Sciences de St. Petersbourg*, **3**: 308.